MINUTES

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF THE

FIFTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

CAHABA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

PINE FLAT CHURCH, PERRY CO., ALA.,

October 15th, 16th, and 17th, 1870.

OFFICERS:

MODERATOR.....JOHN S. FORD.
CLERK.....W. A. BISHOP.

TUSKALOOSA:

PRINTED AT THE INDEPENDENT MONITOR JOB OFFICE.

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MINUTES.

PINE FLAT CHURCH, PERRY CO., ALA., }
October 15th, 1870. }

The Fifty-Third Annual Session of the Cahaba Baptist Association was held with the Pine Flat Church on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of October, 1870. The Introductory Discourse was delivered by Rev. W. H. McIntosh, from Luke xvii: 20, 21. Subject, "The Kingdom of God."

After a short recess, the delegates met in the house. Elder John S. Ford, the former Moderator, called the meeting to order, which was opened with prayer by Rev. A. J. Battle.

The Letters were then read, and the names of the Delegates enrolled, as follows:

Antioch—John Frazier, John Suttles, and John White.
Bethlehem—S. V. McGinnis.
Concord—S. A. Boling, R. R. Richardson.
Ephesus—J. L. Nichols, W. J. Hughey, David Gentry.
Fellowship—Enoch Fagan, H. W. Crawford.
Friendship—W. Latham, T. D. Henney, T. Smith.
Hephzibah—F. M. Ford, W. S. Hanna, H. P. Harris.
Hopewell—E. Tubb, Joseph Evans.
Macedonia—A. Bishop.
Mars Hill—J. S. Ford, J. McCauley, A. J. Kinard.
Medline—Jas. Harris, T. J. Nichols.
Mt. Gilead—A. M. Terry, D. D. Potts, S. D. Potts.
Mt. Hebron—W. A. Bishop.
Mt. Pleasant—S. J. T. Whatley, R. Y. Woods, W. A. Bishop.
Mt. Zion—J. W. Suttle, Andrew Kirsh, D. E. Sneed.
Pine Flat—Jas. Vanderslice, Robt. Farley, Thos. Cummings.
Pisgah—E. W. Garrison.
Pleasant Hill—F. W. Jones.
Sardis—Rev. Carter Tubb, Jas. Crews, John Candle.
Siloam—Rev. Wm. H. McIntosh.
Shiloh—Rev. J. M. Heard, S. C. Davis, D. E. Davis.
Ocmulgee—Rev. J. R. Shinn.
Union—W. R. Martin, J. E. Stringfellow.

The delegates then proceeded to complete the organization of the body, by electing its officers. Elder J. S. FORD was elected Moderator, and W. A. BISHOP Clerk.

Opened the door for the reception of Churches.

The Church at Bethlehem presented her letter, and was cordially received.

The Order of Business of the last session was adopted as the order of the present one.

The Moderator appointed Committee on Preaching, to consist of the Pastor and Deacons of Pine Flat Church, and brethren John Suttles and Henry Crawford.

Ministers and members of churches of the Association, but not delegates, were invited to take seats, and to participate in the business of the body.

On motion,

Resolved, That when this body adjourns, it be adjourned to meet with Pisgah Church, Perry county.

Appointed a Committee on Finance: George Smith, James Waters, J. McCauley.

Called for correspondence from sister Associations. Received from Tuskaloosa its messenger, Rev. Joshua H. Foster, and letter; and from Union Association, J. U. Wilks.

Rev. Wm. Walker, of South Carolina, being present, was cordially invited to participate in the deliberations of the body, which he accepted.

Appointed Committee on Documents: John Suttles and C. C. Smith.

Appointed delegates to sister Associations, as follows:

Alabama—Rev. Wm. H. McIntosh, S. R. Freeman.

Bigbee—Rev. B. Hendon, W. A. Bishop.

Mulberry—Jessee Heard, John Suttles.

Pine Barren—Rev. S. R. Freeman.

Tuskaloosa—J. S. T. Whatley, R. Y. Woods, O. H. Perry.

Shelby—Benj. Stephens.

Unity—John Suttles, J. R. Shinn.

The Committee on Preaching report Revs. S. R. Freeman to preach on Sabbath, at 11, A. M.; A. J. Battle at 2, P. M.; W. A. Bishop at night.

Moved, by Wm. H. McIntosh, D. D., and carried, that the Report on Education be made the order of the day on Monday, 11, A. M.

Adjourned, with prayer by W. A. Bishop.

LORD'S DAY, Oct. 16.

At the appointed time, a large audience met at the stand, and was addressed by S. R. Freeman, D. D., from Eph. iii: 8. After a short recess, Rev. A. J. Battle preached, from Luke xxiii: 42, 43.

W. A. Bishop, at night, from John, the First Epistle General, iii: 3.

MONDAY, Oct. 17.

The Association assembled at 9½ o'clock, A. M., and prayer was offered by Rev. Wm. Walker, of S. C.

Report on Domestic Missions was read and adopted. Appendix A.

Report on Education was read and adopted. Appendix B.

Report on Letters and Documents read and adopted. Appendix C.

In answer to the query from Mars Hill Church—

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that individuals received under the watch care of a church, not claiming any ecclesiastical connexion with the church, are in no sense members of the church, but are simply introduced as Baptists, and recommended to the Christian regard, sympathy and supervision of the church.

The Committee on Nominations reported: Rev. W. A. Bishop to preach the Introductory Sermon; Rev. Carter Tubb, alternate. Rev. E. B. Teague, on Missions; Rev. A. J. Battle, alternate.

Report of Auditing Committee adopted. Appendix D.

Brother D. R. Lide was elected Treasurer of the Association.

Report on Sunday Schools read and adopted. Appendix E.

The following resolution was offered by Dr. McIntosh, and adopted:

Resolved, That this Association recommend the general circulation of the Christian Index and S. W. Baptist, published at Atlanta, Ga., and the Home and Foreign Journal, published in Richmond, Va.

Report on Temperance read and adopted. Appendix F.

Resolved, That the 4th Article of the Constitution of this Association be printed in the Minutes—with the names of the churches not represented at the present session.

Report on Foreign Missions read and adopted. Appendix G.

Resolved, That this Association tender their most profound gratitude to the members of Pine Flat church, and to the citizens of its vicinity, for their kind regard to the members of this body.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to employ a Missionary to labor within the boundary of this Association, provided a sufficient amount be raised to compensate one for his labors of love; and that the Committee be instructed to confer with the churches on the subject.

The Committee consists of Rev. J. S. Ford, Joseph Evans, J. Kinard, John Lee.

Report on Finance read and adopted. Appendix H.

Committee on Widows' Fund: Rev. C. Tubb, Henry Crawford.

The Moderator appointed Chairmen of Standing Committees, to report at the next meeting of the body:

On Domestic Missions, T. L. Vaughn.

On Education, Dr. W. H. McIntosh.

On Foreign Missions, T. R. Shinn.

On Sabbath Schools, A. J. Kinard.

On Temperance, J. M. Heard.

The 4th Article of the Constitution is as follows:

"Every Church in our union shall be entitled to representation, in the following manner, viz: Churches composed of fifty members or under are entitled to send three messengers; and for every fifty members that may be added, one additional member. Any Church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state the reasons to the next session."

The Association having disposed of all the business before it, a hymn was sung, prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. Foster, adjourned to meet with Pisgah Church, in Perry county, on Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in October, 1871.

J. S. FORD, *Moderator.*

W. A. BISHOP, *Clerk.*

Received of W. A. Bishop, forty-five dollars for printing eight hundred copies of these Minutes.

W. H. DOUTHIT,

December, 1870. Foreman Monitor Office.

APPENDIX.

A.—REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

The calls for aid from feeble churches were never more earnest than at the present time, nor the demand for missionary labor where no churches exist urged by stronger appeals. Your committee desire to direct special attention to the destitution within our own bounds, and earnestly recommend the Association to adopt some measures that will secure the services of at least one Missionary whose time shall be devoted to this work during the next Associational year. To this end, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That this Association will raise the sum of $600, to be paid in to the Treasurer of the Board of Domestic Missions, for the employment of a Missionary to labor within the bounds of the Cahaba Association.

Resolved, That in order to secure this amount, the delegates to the Association will contribute to this fund according to their ability; and pledge themselves to solicit a contribution, by the same rule, from every member of their several churches, however small the amount may be, and will pay the contributions thus secured to I. B. Lovelace, Treasurer of the Board of Domestic Missions, by the 1st of March, 1871, or earlier if possible.

B.—REPORT ON EDUCATION.

In lieu of the regular Report on Education, your Committee beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Cahaba Association is irrevocably pledged to the cause of elevated literary, scientific, and religious education, and that the Howard College and Judson Female Institute, both institutions of our State Convention, and situated within the bounds of this Association, and devoted to the above objects, be cherished in our hearts, sustained by our prayers and sympathies, and, so far as possible, supported by our patronage and means.

C.—REPORT ON LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee on Letters and Documents beg leave to report that we have examined the Letters from the different Churches, and find in the letter from Mars Hill Church that A. J. Kinard has been ordained to the full work of the ministry; also, B. F. Hendon and S. V. McGinnis. And, also, from the same Church, a query is sent up to the Association, about in these words: "It has been the practice of the Churches to receive members under the watch care of the Church." We are at a loss to know what this means or amounts to. Will the Association inform us what relation such persons sustain to the Churches? Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. SUTTLES, *Chairman.*

D.—REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

The Auditing Committee has examined the Treasurer's Report, and find it correct.

E. TUBB,
E. GEORGE.

E.—REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The advantage and utility of the Sunday School are now so generally acknowledged, that your Committee do not deem it necessary to engross the time of the Association by discussing the merits of this admirable institution. "A Sunday School in every Church," has grown to be a maxim accepted by the denomination at large. Surely, it is eminently desirable that our children should be regularly and systematically taught the knowledge of Jesus. And how shall this be done so effectually as in a well conducted Sunday School? But grown-up children—adults—need also to be taught more perfectly the truths of the Bible, and there is no better opportunity for effecting this object, than that which the Sunday School offers. And what spectacle can be more impressive or beautiful than that of a whole neighborhood, the aged with the young, the parent with the child, the brother with the sister, sitting at the feet of Jesus, to learn lessons of truth and heaven! It is a scene on which the regard of angels would love to linger, on which the eye of God himself would take delight. What a holy mutual influence would thus be exerted—the example and counsels of the parent encouraging the little ones, and the diligence of the children touching and kindling the parent's heart to greater zeal in the study of divine truth!

Your Committee beg leave to offer the following recommendations:

1. That a Sunday School be established in every Church on a permanent basis.

2. That adult classes be organized, and all the members of the Church be invited to enrol themselves as regular members of the school.

F.—REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The use of this term has been restricted, so that in its application the reference is almost exclusively to the use of intoxicating drinks. No one who observes the state of society, can fail to see the necessity of the most rigid discipline in the use of intoxicating drinks.

We need not portray the hideous vice of intemperance, nor paint its ruinous consequences on individuals and society at large. These are facts too well known to us all. There are few who have not felt in some way the sting of this fearful evil, and all have seen its terrible effects.

It is thought by the observing that this evil is on the increase, especially among the young men of our country. This is a fact both sad and alarming to every true lover of morality and refinement. If the young men become drunkards, good society will be displaced by every species of immorality and degradation; and pauperism, worse than that which follows fire and sword, will spread over our land. What may be done, in the way of staying this evil, must be with the *young*, for old drunkards are seldom reclaimed. Old men seldom become drunkards. It has been ascertained by statistics that the habits which follow men through life are usually formed between sixteen and twenty-five.

Now, what is the remedy?

First, Let all good people practice rigid temperance, and teach its importance, and thus impress the youth of our land with the necessity of sobriety in order to elevate themselves to the true dignity of men, rather than bring themselves down to the low level of brutes.

Second, Let female society put their unqualified frown upon the *slightest* intemperance, and with firmness dismiss every young man who is known to be intemperate, from the sacred precincts of their circle. This will be the best and only remedy for this evil. Other helps are good, but without this will fail. This is placing a great responsibility upon the mothers and daughters of our land. We may preach and lecture on the subject, and form temperance societies, but no effort will suc-

ceed, so long as the intemperate are recognized in the refined society of woman. Respectfully submitted,

S. R. FREEMAN,
J. VANDERSLICE, } *Com'ee*
D. SNEEDE,

G.—REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The history of modern Missions, with little exception, is all comprised within the present century. One hundred years ago, the Church neither knew her own vocation nor the full claim of the heathen nations upon her. Indeed, she felt but comparatively little interest in the conversion of the world, and the Saviour's commission to preach the Gospel to every creature, was thought to have special application to Apostolic times and duty, and she strengthened herself in this position with the belief that the great heathen nations of the earth were beyond her reach.

But not exceeding eighty years ago Carey conceived that the Church of Christ had a higher destiny to fulfill. He was inspired to ask of the Lord greater things—even the conversion of the world—and he himself went to Burmah as a pioneer of the Cross of the blessed Redeemer. But we imagine, with all of his love and zeal for the cause of his Master, little did he conceive of the happy results of one hundred years' Missionary labor.

Many of the heathen nations, and many of the isles of the Pacific Ocean, once thought to be beyond the reach of the Gospel, have been reclaimed, and are now held as conquered provinces of the kingdom of the blessed Messiah, and their people, who once drowned or burned their little children alive, in hopes of appeasing the wrath of their gods, are now teaching them to love and obey the Lord, and together with them bow around the same mercy seat. Multitudes who once sat in darkness, are now rising up to catch the healing beams of the Sun of Righteousness. The gates of China have been thrown open and the Missionaries invited in, and they now have free access to many parts of that great empire of antiquity, with its five hundred millions of inhabitants; and now many of them, and many of other nations, who had not heard of the Saviour of the world until they heard it from the Missionaries, can now read in their own language of that everlasting love which brought Him into this world to redeem and save them.

Clouds are flying from the South Sea Islands, and light is advancing in the Eastern Archipelago. Along the deserts of Africa the Rose of Sharon is seen to bloom, and in her valleys the Lily of the Vale is seen to blossom, and to some who sat in darkness, the Dayspring from on high has appeared.

"The Missionary Herald," the organ of the American Board, thus sums up the result of the great Protestant movement of modern times:

Forty-two Missionary Societies, representing almost every branch of the Church: About two thousand Missionaries proclaiming the glad tidings of salvation: Eight thousand Native Preachers, in more than one hundred different languages, unite with them in repeating the story of the Cross; and more than three hundred thousand, gathered from almost every tribe, bear witness to its saving power and the pleasing hope it inspires. The Foreign Missionaries have, as we regret to learn, met with some discouragements, but perhaps not greater than others overcome. The annual contributions of the churches amount to about two million dollars.

Notwithstanding all of the difficulties met in the Missionary operations, when we contemplate the success of the Gospel, and the trophies of the Cross, to the eye of faith the time may not seem far distant when the glorious work will be finished, the laborers called home, and the prediction fulfilled—"Every knee shall bow to His sceptre, and every tongue confess unto Him:" All nations shall love and obey him.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. A. BISHOP, *Chairman.*

II.—REPORT ON FINANCE.

Statement of Contributions made and sent up to Cahaba Association, as reported by Finance Committee:

For Minutes		$44 95	
" Domestic Missions		11 25	
" Widows' Fund		42 05	
" Associational purposes		18 50	
" Foreign Missions		8 40	
" Association Mission Fund		30 15	
			$155 30

I.—TREASURER'S REPORT.

Cahaba Association,
In Account with D. R. LIDE, *Treasurer.*

1869	MINUTES.	*Dr.*	*Cr.*
Oct. 18—To cash from churches.....$59 00			
" Associa'nal purpóses. 26 00			
		$85 00	
Nv. 17—By Dr. B. F. Hendon, Cl'k, recpt,...			$85 00
	WIDOWS' FUND.		
Oct. 18—To cash from churches.....$51 50			
" " delegates..... 29 25			
		80 75	
20—By cash pd. H. W. Crawford, recpt,.			80 75
	DOMESTIC MISSIONS.		
Oct. 18—To cash from churches.....		4 00	
Nv. 18—By M. T. Sumner, Cor. Sec., recpt...			4 00
	BEN'Y THEO. STUDENTS HOWARD COL.		
Oct. 18—To cash by subscription $55 00			
1870 " " 10 00			
Oct. " " 25 00			
		90 00	
Jan. 4—By Dr.S.R.Freeman's rec'pt, $55 00			
Oct. 13— " " " 10 00			
" " acknowledge, 25 00			
			90 00
		$259 75	$259 75

SUBSCRIPTIONS UNPAID.

W. M. McCuller.....$5 00—paid
Rev. J. A. Hill..... 5 00
Rev. Wm. H. McIntosh, D. D.....10 00
N. Cobb..... 5 00
——$25 00

Respectfully submitted,
D. R. LIDE, *Treasurer*
Cahaba Association.

THE CHURCHES FOR 1870.

Churches.	Counties.	Pastors.	Post Offices.	Days of Preach'g	Baptized.	Rec. by Let	Dismissed	Expelled.	Restored.	Died.	Tot. Memb.	Associa'n Fund.	Minute Fund.	Mission Fund.	Total.
Antioch,	Hale,	R. S. Jones,	Greensboro'	3d S.& S.	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bethlehem,	Perry,	S. V. McGinnis,	Not given,	.....	5	4	..	1	..	..	26	$ 50	$1 00	.....	$ 1 50
Concord,	"	John S. Ford,	Radfordsv'le	1st Sab.	32	..	10	..	1	1	178	1 00	3 00	$10 50	14 50
Ephesus,	"	Carter Tubb,	Not given,	3d "	6	1	..	1	..	1	50	.....	1 00	.....	1 00
Fellowship,	"	S. R. Freeman,	Marion,	2d "	..	..	7	3	..	2	87	.....	3 00	8 00	11 00
Friendship,	"	H. P. Griffin,	Pinetuckey,	4th "	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	1 00	2 00	.....	3 00
Hephzibah,	"	J. W. Wilkes,	Perryville,	2d "	..	2	6	2	..	3	64	2 00	2 00	.....	4 00
Hopewell,	"	S. R. Freeman,	Marion,	2d "	3	2	..	2	..	3	52	.....	3 50	.....	3 50
Macedonia,	Hale,	W. A. Bishop,	Havana,	2d "	3	..	..	..	..	..	28	1 00	1 00	.....	2 00
Mars Hill,	Perry.	J. S. Ford,	Marion,	2d "	3	..	3	1	..	1	92	1 00	3 00	7 00	11 00
Medline,	Dallas	S. V. McGinnis,	Plantersville	4th "	..	1	19	1	2	..	66	.....	2 00	.....	2 00
Mt. Gilead,	Bibb,	J. M. Heard,	Centreville,	4th "	3	..	3	..	..	..	52	.....	1 00	.....	1 00
Mt. Hebron,	Hale,	W. A. Bishop,	Havana,	4th "	..	1	..	..	..	..	12	1 00	50	.....	1 50
Mt. Pleasant,	"	T. M. Barbour,	Carthage,	1st "	..	1	4	2	..	1	68	1 00	2 00	.....	3 00
Mt. Zion,	Bibb,	J. M. Heard,	Centreville,	3d "	2	1	2	..	..	..	51	1 00	2 00	.....	3 00
Pine Flat,	Perry.	J. M. Heard,	Marion,	2d "	..	..	1	1	..	1	64	1 00	2 00	.....	3 00
Pisgah,	"	J. U. Wilkes,	Perryville,	4th "	9	2	12	1	..	..	...	2 00	3 00	.....	5 00
Pleasant Hill	Hale.	Carter Tubb,	Carthage,	4th "	..	1	1	..	..	..	40	1 00	1 00	.....	2 00
Sardis,	Perry,	Carter Tubb,	Marion,	1st "	..	1	2	..	..	..	102	1 00	2 00	.....	3 00
Siloam,	"	W. H. McIntosh,	Marion,	each "	16	7	6	3	2	..	227	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shiloh,	"	J. M. Heard,	Perryville,	1st "	..	..	3	..	..	..	87	.....	1 50	.....	1 50
Ocmulgee,	"	J. S. Ford,	Summerfield	not giv'n	24	5	30	..	1	1	243	1 00	3 00	.....	4 00
Union,	Hale,	W. A. Bishop,	Greensboro'	3d Sab.	..	2	..	..	..	..	57	2 00	2 00	.....	4 00
												17 50	11 50	$25 50	$84 50